Miss Giddings

Samuel May Jr

Boston

Mass

Mrs. B. L. Swe
7 P. 24

Washington Dec 24th
1858

My Dear Friend

You will be surprized at my long silence - Since I wrote you my heart has been almost standing Still with fear dread and apprehension with Regard to Father - He has not been well since we left home, and the Pension bills for the Soldiers of the War of 1812 and one or two matters of less interest have been before the House on which he seemed better informed than any one else, and seemed to feel it his duty to press along, or rather, I suppose he found it impossible to avoid getting excited and nervous about a

not realizing his danger he has seemed reckless with regard to himself — Binghams and Bliss of Ohio, and a few others have seemed to comprehend his situation, and watch over him with intense interest — We have had whist parties almost every evening and music - and all the fun we could make, and I think we have all said all the beautiful things we could remember or imagine — I think our plan of diverting his mind from business, and any thing to excite or annoy him is to be successful — and

trust he will get
so well during the
Holydays - that we
can do something beside
play whist. I have not
left him an evening
since we came here,
and have attended
nearly every session
of the House -

It is best not to attempt
any series of letters for the
Liberator - I cannot do
you or myself any
credit under the circumstances
If I can, I will write
over my own signature "M G."
a few letters, after the Holydays
I mean to have Father
go out as much as he
can after he gets over
this cold - and down

know how much of
my time may be
at my own disposal
I wish I could hear
of you, and Boston
friends and the Festival
Yet I dont know but
it were wrong to
expect it in reply
to my letters —
I wish I was strong
enough, and wise
and good enough, to
write such letters as I
feel would interest a
my Ch S friends - Yet I am
a poor weak girl, and
love my Father too much
pitty me, and believe me
most sincerely
Your friend
L M Giddings

(Daughter of J. R. Giddings)

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